
Commerce & Labor Committee

HB 2240

Brief Description: Allowing certain activities between domestic wineries, domestic breweries, microbreweries, certificate of approval holders, and retail sellers of beer or wine.

Sponsors: Representatives Conway, Condotta and Kenney.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Allows domestic wineries and retailers to produce tourism materials with regional, state, or local wine industry associations.
- Allows wine and beer manufacturers to provide personal services for a retailer, including participation and pouring at a retailer's premises and bottle signings.

Hearing Date: 2/23/07

Staff: Joan Elgee (786-7106).

Background:

The "tied-house" law prohibits liquor manufacturers from having a financial interest in a licensed retailer or from providing things of value ("money or moneys' worth") to a retailer.

The Legislature has enacted several exceptions to the tied-house law. In 2006, legislation was passed to allow domestic wineries and retailers to jointly produce brochures and materials promoting tourism which contain information about domestic wineries, retailers, and their products.

Summary of Bill:

The provision allowing domestic wineries and retailers to jointly produce tourism materials is expanded to include regional, state, or local wine industry associations.

Domestic wineries and breweries, microbreweries, and certificate of approval holders may include on their web sites information about retailers who sell or promote their products, including links to

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the retailers' web sites. Retailers may likewise provide information and links on their web sites for wineries, breweries, microbreweries, and certificate of approval holders.

Domestic wineries and breweries, microbreweries, and certificate of approval holders may provide personal services for a licensed retailer on the retailer's premises that are intended to inform, educate, or enhance customers' knowledge or experience of the manufacturer's products. The personal services may include participation and pouring at the premises of a retailer with an on-premises consumption license, bottle signings, and similar informational or educational activities.

Rules Authority: The bill does not address the rule-making powers of an agency.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.